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(concluded)

(ii) a feed assistance roller rotably mounted to the shaft and positioned to apply pressure on the medium in the path to stabilize the medium while the medium is being aligned in the path by the at least one align roller, wherein the feed assistance member is not rotably connected to the align roller, and wherein the feed assistance roller is not vertically aligned with any align roller.

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10. (Twice Amended) A medium processing device including a medium feeding apparatus to feed the medium through a feed path in the processing device, wherein the medium feeding apparatus comprises:

at least one align roller to align a medium in a path; and
a feed assistance member comprising:

- (i) a shaft;
- (ii) a feed assistance roller rotably mounted to the shaft and positioned to apply pressure on the medium in the path to stabilize the medium while the medium is being aligned in the path by the at least one align roller, wherein the feed assistance member is not rotably connected to the align roller, and wherein the feed assistance roller is not vertically aligned with any align roller.
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18. (Amended) A feed assistance apparatus for feeding a medium in a medium processing apparatus, comprising:

at least one align roller for feeding the medium;
a member portion contacting said medium being fed to increase a frictional force generated on the medium while the medium is being aligned in the path by the at least one align roller;

wherein the member portion is not rotably connected to the align roller, and wherein the member portion is not vertically aligned with any align roller.

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32. The medium feeding apparatus of claim 2, wherein the align roller aligns the medium in a substantially horizontal path, and wherein the feed assistance member and align rollers contact the medium while the medium is moving in the substantially horizontal path.

33. The medium feeding apparatus of claim 2, wherein the feed assistance member rotates and applies pressure to the medium in response to contacting the medium being moved by the align roller.

34. The medium processing device of claim 10, wherein the align roller aligns the medium in a substantially horizontal path, and wherein the feed assistance member and align rollers contact the medium while the medium is moving in the substantially horizontal path.

35. The medium processing device of claim 10, wherein the feed assistance member rotates and applies pressure to the medium in response to contacting the medium being moved by the align roller.

36. The feed assistance apparatus of claim 18, wherein the align roller aligns the medium in a substantially horizontal path, and wherein the feed assistance member and align rollers contact the medium while the medium is moving in the substantially horizontal path.

37. The feed assistance apparatus of claim 18, wherein the feed assistance member rotates and applies pressure to the medium in response to contacting the medium being moved by the align roller.